

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 02039 270604Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06
OMB-01 AGRE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 HEW-04 /071 W
-----270814Z 061506 /21

R 270522Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8633
DEA HQS WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 2039

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR, BM, NL, TH, UK

SUBJ: COMMENTS BY DUTCH MINISTER OF JUSTICE ON POSSIBLE AID
TO CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM.

REF: A) THE HAGUE 0419 B) BANGKOK 1523

1. WE UNDERSTAND BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES DESCRIBED IN REF A
CONCERNING POSSIBLE USE OF DUTCH DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS TO HELP
WITH OPIUM CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS IN THAILAND AND BURMA.
WE ARE NEVERTHELESS ENCOURAGED THAT THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN RAISED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 02039 270604Z

BY A DUTCH OFFICIAL.

2. AS THE DUTCH AND SOME OTHER EUROPEANS HAVE RATHER RECENTLY
DISCOVERED, NARCOTICS ABUSE AND THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKING WHICH FEEDS IT ARE SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH NO
EASY SOLUTIONS OR REMEDIES. CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS
ARE A SMALL BUT NEVERTHELESS VITAL PART OF THE EFFORT TO

IMPEDE AND REDUCE THE FLOW OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS FROM PRODUCING AREAS TO CONSUMING AREAS. NO LONG TERM SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF OPIUM AND HEROIN PRODUCTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IS POSSIBLE IF THESE CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS ARE UNSUCCESSFUL.

3. THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING INVOLVED IN CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS IS QUITE SMALL. THE ORIGINAL UN PROGRAM IN NORTHERN THAILAND WAS FUNDED AT \$2 MILLION DOLLARS, SPREAD OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD, AND HAS GROWN ONLY SLIGHTLY OVER THE YEARS. IN OUR SUGGESTIONS (REF B) FOR A POSSIBLE EFFORT BY THE "POMPIDOU GROUP" IN THAILAND, WE NOTED THAT A REVOLVING FUND TO ASSURE A READY MARKET FOR SUBSTITUTE CROPS GROWN BY HILL FARMERS NEED BE NO LARGER THAN \$500,000 TO \$1.0 MILLION. THE DUTCH CONTRIBUTION TO SUCH A FUND COULD BE QUITE SMALL INDEED.

4. REGARDING COMMENTS BY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE FONTEIJN, THE PROGRAM WHICH HE AND VAN AGT INSPECTED IN NORTHERN THAILAND IS A PILOT PROJECT DESIGNED TO DEVELOP A MODEL WHICH CAN BE USED FOR MUCH MORE EXTENSIVE (AND MUCH LONGER TERM) SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS. THE RTG IS ALREADY PLANNING TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAM. TO SOMEONE EXPERIENCED IN POLICE WORK, THE EFFORT MIGHT APPEAR TO BE AGONIZINGLY SLOW. WE THINK THAT THE PROGRAM HAS A GOOD CHANCE OF SUCCESS, HOWEVER, BUT ONLY IF IT HAS ADEQUATE FINANCING AND SUPPORT.

5. WE ARE NOT SUGGESTING THAT EMBASSY HAGUE MAKE AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGKO 02039 270604Z

OFFICIAL APPROACH TO THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT REGARDING VAN AGT'S SUGGESTIONS. IF SUBJECT COMES UP IN DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, EMBASSY MIGHT WANT TO RAISE ARGUMENTS LISTED ABOVE AND POINT OUT THE MODERATE AMOUNT OF FUNDING ACTUALLY INVOLVED. COMPARED TO THE APPALLING TRAGEDY AND WASTE INVOLVED IN DRUG ABUSE, EXPENDITURE IN THE ORDER OF MAGNITUDE REFERRED TO ABOVE WOULD SEEM TO BE MODEST, INDEED. UNFORTUNATELY, CCINC FUNDS ARE NOT RPT

NOT AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE. A EUROPEAN OR EVEN A UNILATERAL DUTCH INITIATIVE IN THIS AREA COULD PERFORM A USEFUL FUNCTION.

6. WE HAVE NOT ATTEMPTED TO WORK OUT THE MODUS OPERANDI OF SUCH A REVOLVING FUND IN DETAIL. IT OCCURS TO US THAT IT COULD BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE UN, OR DIRECTLY BY DUTCH OR OTHER EUROPEAN OFFICIALS IN NORTHERN THAILAND, OR IT COULD BE HANDLED THROUGH A LOCAL THAI BANK OR COMMERCIAL FIRM. FUND TRANSACTIONS WOULD BE SELF-LIQUIDATING

AND MIGHT EVEN SHOW A MODEST, OVERALL PROFIT.
WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO02039
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770029-0508
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770114/aaaaamar.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c6d138d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 THE HAGUE 419, 77 BANGKOK 1523
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3490134
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENTS BY DUTCH MINISTER OF JUSTICE ON POSSIBLE AID TO CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM.
TAGS: SNAR, BM, NL, TH, UK
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6d138d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009